



Ontario

Ministry of
Community and
Social Services

Charles Beer
Minister

CA20N


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How to Adopt in Ontario

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What exactly is adoption?

Adoption is a legal and social process which establishes a parent-child relationship, providing permanence and security for the child. Adoption changes over the years to reflect changing patterns in our society. Not long ago, it was considered appropriate only for babies. Currently the adoptable population is a mixture of children from all age groups, some of them with very special needs. Because older children's characters have been formed to a great extent, adopting them is a very different matter from adopting a newborn infant. Parents must not only possess the maturity and flexibility to meet the type of challenge it often involves, but in many cases will need to develop specialized skills to meet their adopted child's special needs.

Ontario's adoption rate has declined over the past few years for a number of reasons. It is now socially acceptable for a young single mother to keep her baby, and more single parents are raising their own children. The birth rate is lower due to birth control measures, and services which help keep families together have improved.

Years ago, children could be adopted with few formalities. Frequently, a child simply took the adoptive family's name and lived as 'one of the family'. In many ways this was unsatisfactory for both child and parent. It provided little security for the child, whose legal rights and past identity could easily become lost. As well, the adopting parents' relationship with the child remained unprotected and could be disrupted.

Adoption today, whether local or international, public or private, is a well-structured, legally binding procedure. It must be arranged either through a children's aid society or a private agency or individual, licensed by the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS).

What form does adoption take in Ontario?

The Child and Family Services Act (1984) of Ontario (CFSA) details the legal process of adoption, from the original conditions of consent of the natural parents, to the final court order through which a child becomes the lawful child of the adopting parents. The intent of this legislation is to protect the rights of every party involved in an adoption.

There are three types of adoption in Ontario: those done through children's aid societies; those done through private agencies or individuals licensed by the Ministry; and relative or step-parent adoptions which are done directly and do not involve the Ministry.

Why are children adopted?

All children are better for knowing they have roots, and feeling that they belong to a family. This feeling of belonging affects how people see themselves in relation to their community. Young people who feel secure about their future are likely to be contributing members of a stable society, just as youngsters who feel left out and rootless are apt to feel and behave in an alienated way.

Many couples believe that children enrich and complete a marriage. Those who find they can't produce children will often adopt. Others, who already have children, want to enlarge their family through adoption.

A concern for over-population leads some parents to adopt, usually a second or third child. There are many families whose social conscience moves them to share their good fortune with less privileged children.

There are other, and less desirable motives. A couple may seek an heir only to carry on the family name. Others may think of an adopted child as an 'outside interest' or as a 'replacement' for the loss of a child. Unwisely, a couple may expect an adopted child to restore a shaky marriage. A woman may fear and want to avoid childbirth. Parents are asked to look at and assess their reasons for wanting to adopt, as part of the adoption home study process.

Who are the children being adopted?

Children for whom adoption is planned are those whose parents are unable to care for them for various reasons. Most often there has been a serious family breakdown, sometimes involving alcoholism, abuse, mental illness or just a total inability to cope with the responsibilities of raising a child.

A single parent may realize she cannot give her child the kind of upbringing she wants him to have. In rare cases, children are in the care of the province because their parents have both died.

Infants

There are far fewer infants currently available for adoption than there were even a decade ago. Frequently there is a long waiting period at most children's aid societies for parents who wish to adopt a healthy infant. Some approved applicants may never have a child placed with them.

Special Needs Children

These children are all ages and at all stages of development. Not all of them are hard to place, and parents who feel they are suited to adopt an older child or one with special needs still may have a fairly long wait.

Those children who are older usually have suffered some degree of pain from their experience of being separated from their birth families. This inevitably leaves emotional trauma that must be dealt with.

Some adoptive children have physical handicaps. Some are developmentally handicapped, while others are of mixed or minority-race parentage. There are brothers and sisters, sometimes as many as five or six, who are close to one another and want to be adopted into the same family.

Not all children in public care are candidates for adoption. Many are receiving temporary care from a children's aid society while efforts are made to restore stability to their family life. Some remain in foster care as a matter of choice: either they do not want to try adoption, or when they became Crown wards, the judge granted access to their parents, and adoption is not possible while an access order is in place.

It is the job of the child care workers and adoption workers in children's aid societies to get to know these children, so that they can determine what is in their best interest. Where the child is old enough, he helps to make this choice.

How does one go about adopting a child?

There are several options: children's aid society adoptions, private adoptions, and international adoptions.

Children's Aid Society Adoptions

Would-be adoptive parents work with their local children's aid society (see list on page 17). When a couple approaches their children's aid society about adopting, a social worker will talk with them, and in many societies, invite them to a series of orientation meetings with other interested couples. Agency staff will describe the various aspects of adoption in Ontario. If a couple wishes to proceed after learning what is involved, they will be assigned a social worker. The worker will become acquainted with them as individuals, and familiar with their life-style, attitudes and expectations. From this process, called a "home study" — a mutual process in which both couple and worker participate — a decision is eventually made as to what child or children would comfortably adapt to the couple and benefit from being adopted by them.

Because the child's welfare is of primary concern, the worker concentrates on finding the most appropriate home for the child, rather than on finding a child for the applicants. This can mean that there could be a long wait before a child appears for whom a family is particularly appropriate.

Introductions can be arranged in many ways. If the child is older or has a special handicap, and there are long distances separating the potential parents from him, video-tape recordings can be extremely useful. Photo albums assembled by would-be adoptive parents are often used to give a child an idea of how the family lives. Once the choice is made there may be several pre-placement visits while a child becomes acquainted with the new parents and the environment. Only after that does the child move into the home.

The law specifies a probationary period of not less than six months from the time a child moves into the new home. Sometimes the period is longer. During this time the children's aid society social worker supervises the placement and helps to resolve problems or difficulties which the family or the child may encounter. After an adoption is completed, the children's aid society will continue to provide assistance on request.

When all parties are ready to complete the adoption, the children's aid society makes application to the court for an adoption order, making the adopting parents the child's legal parents, and the child a legal member of their family.

After the adoption is final, there may be times when the parents will want to consult their social worker. For example, older children may need to talk about their natural parents or earlier experiences. Even though a child may be able to talk freely with the new parents, outside guidance may be needed or useful to help handle their emotional reactions.

With some exceptions, adoptions become happy experiences for all concerned. However, adoption, like child-rearing, is not without problems. When these occur, the children's aid society stands ready to help.

Private Adoptions

Ontario's Child and Family Services Act (1984) outlines provisions and limitations governing private adoptions in this province. These adoptions can be handled by an agency or individual who has been licensed by the Ministry to place children for private adoption. Licences are granted for a one-year period and can be renewed each year as long as the licensee continues to meet the standards set by the Ministry.

Private placement can occur when a birth parent seeks out a licensee to assist her in finding a family for her child or when a prospective adoptive couple knows of a birth parent wishing to plan adoption for her child and approaches the licensee to assist in the arrangements.

The Child and Family Services Act permits only children's aid societies, agencies and individuals licensed by the Ministry to place children for adoption whether the placement is within or outside Ontario. Thus, neither a birth parent nor her family, nor the prospective adoptive family, can make the placement directly, except in the case of relative or step-parent adoptions.

The licensee is responsible for notifying the Ministry's director of the proposed placement of the specific child with the specific family. With that notice, the licensee submits an adoption home-study report on the proposed family and the social and medical history on the birth parents. If the child to be placed is not a newborn infant, the child's social and medical history also need to be submitted.

Once the material is reviewed, the Ministry's director will approve placement, if assured that the adoption is in the best interests of the child. The birth mother (and father, if he qualifies under the definition found in the Act) may sign consent to adoption when the child is seven days old, but has 21 days after signing for a change of mind to reclaim the child. The legislation states:

Section 133, CFSA:

- (1) The court may permit a person who gave a consent to the adoption of a child under section 131 to withdraw the consent after the twenty-one day period referred to in subsection 131 (8) where the court is satisfied that it is in the child's best interests to do so, and where that person had custody of the child immediately before giving the consent, the child shall be returned to him or her as soon as the consent is withdrawn.

- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply where the child has been placed with a person for adoption and remains in that person's care.

One major difference between an adoption arranged by a children's aid society and a private adoption is that applicants who choose to adopt privately are responsible for all fees incurred, including the fee for a privately-conducted home study. The Child and Family Services Act allows the licensee to charge for legal fees, disbursements and expenses prescribed in the regulations.

Neither the Ministry nor the children's aid societies assist couples in finding babies in private adoption.

Names of approved social workers who may conduct private home studies may be obtained from the Ministry's Private Adoption Clerk. Either the licensee or the applicants can arrange for the study to be done.

International Adoptions

Because the number of infants and young children available for adoption in Ontario continues to decrease, more prospective adoptive couples are looking to other countries for children. International adoption procedures can be complex and confusing: they involve provincial child welfare legislation, federal immigration legislation, and the laws of the child's country of origin. It is important that all legal requirements be met so the adoption of the child is not later found to be invalid.

The first step in adopting from another country is to have a home study done. This can be carried out by your local children's aid society if they have the staff available. If the society cannot do the home study, ask them to recommend a private social worker who could do so. If they cannot, you may

obtain a list of private individuals approved by the Ministry director. You may work with a private licensee whose licence includes the provision to do international adoption. A list may be obtained from the Ministry's adoption unit.

If a private social worker completes the study, the children's aid society ultimately may supervise and finalize the adoption placement. In the case of a licensee authorized to do inter-country adoption all details from beginning to end, including supervision and finalization, are their responsibility.

When an acceptable home study is completed, it is sent through the Ministry to the Adoption Desk in the federal Department of Health and Welfare, and the process is under way. Written details concerning adoption from Korea, Hong Kong, the Philippines and Brazil, may be obtained from the adoption unit of this Ministry. Another organization, known as Families for Children, can help with placements from India. Their address is:

Families for Children
45 Russell Hill Road
Toronto, Ontario
M4V 2S9

It is helpful to talk to other individuals who have adopted internationally, to get an idea of the procedure. Groups such as Canadopt and Open Door Society, listed under Parent Adoption Groups at the back of this booklet, have many such members and are a good source of help and advice for those thinking of adopting a child from another country.

International adoption sometimes can be a lengthy process, depending on the country involved, so you need patience to embark on it. The cost can be anywhere from \$1500 to \$4000 or more, again varying from country to country. If a private social worker is involved, and/or a licensee charging a fee, a further amount may be incurred for professional services in this province. It is important to deal through the correct channels with a recognized agency in another country with whom Canada has established relations.

Where are the adoptable children?

Because each of the children's aid societies in Ontario is responsible for adoption in its own geographic region, the number of adoptable children and adopting families varies from one area to another. There may be a great many would-be adopting couples in a comfortable suburban area of the province and very few available children; the situation may be reversed in areas where social problems are common and family breakup the frequent result. Throughout Ontario, there are many more families wishing to adopt than there are children available for adoption.

To overcome these regional disparities and find appropriate families for waiting children, the Ministry has a number of ways to inform interested couples of the existence of these children. The Today's Child column, appearing in many daily and weekly newspapers, is written by a member of the Ministry staff; Family Finder, a three-minute TV spot featuring a child each week, is shown on CFTO television, Channel 9 in Toronto. A children's adoption bulletin is produced periodically by the Ministry's adoption project officer and distributed to all children's aid societies and interested parent groups. A twice-yearly Adoption Resource Exchange Conference sponsored by the Ministry enables adoption workers to meet and show slides of the children and speak with other adoption workers about a child who interests them. There is a very well-attended session for parents who are approved to adopt. Slide presentations are held from time to time throughout the province, some by children's aid societies, others by adoptive parent groups in conjunction with the Ministry's adoption staff. If a family has a particular skill and interest in caring for a child with a special need, the Ministry's adoption staff circulates the information to all adoption supervisors in children's aid societies throughout the province.

Are there inter-provincial adoptions?

Adoption is governed by provincial law in all provinces. In order to assist in homefinding for children whose home province may not be able to find an appropriate family, the federal Department of Health and Welfare has established an Adoption Desk in Ottawa. All provinces and territories may register approved adopting families and waiting children with the Adoption Desk. Because Ontario has a high population of adoptive families, children from other provinces often are adopted by Ontario families.

Are there restrictions on who can adopt?

Policies such as length of union may vary from one children's aid society to another, but in general, all are agreed that adopting couples must have a stable, secure and harmonious relationship — one which can expand to accommodate a child. Financial stability is a consideration, but wealth doesn't guarantee suitability as adoptive parents. Social workers don't expect a couple to be perfect or problem-free. As adoptive parents, if they have weathered some setbacks in their lives and become stronger as a result, they are often looked upon as good prospects for an adoption — especially for a child who has also been through difficult times. Families who have proven problem-solving abilities and can provide patient, skilled parenting and commitment, are the most likely to succeed with adoption.

The emphasis is on stable relationships: parents with the patience to let children progress at their own pace, who can accept the future problems they may have, and provide them with security

and permanence. Parents must be healthy and energetic enough to keep up with the needs of a growing child.

May single people adopt?

Yes, single people may apply to adopt under The CFSA. However, two-parent adoptions may remain in the majority for some time to come. For many of the children who need families, two parents may be considered necessary to offer the extra degree of support and attention they need.

For some children, adoption by a single parent may be the ideal choice. The increased number of single-parent families in our society is reflected in an increasing number of single-parent adoptions.

Should children be told they were adopted?

Parents should not conceal the fact that their child is adopted. Children who have always been aware of their adoption are likely to have good feelings about it, especially if the word “adoption” has had happy associations for them from an early age. Those who discover only at adolescence that they are adopted are likely to be very ill-equipped to handle the information. There is a great deal of literature to assist parents in this and other issues crucial to understanding the realities of adoption.

How can I get in touch with other adopting parents?

There are some very active adoptive parent groups in Ontario, and there may be one in your area. See list on page 24. Your local children's aid society may be able to put you in touch with some parents who have adopted, if you do not have an adoptive parent group nearby. The mutual support adopting families find in these groups, through social gatherings and newsletters, has caused them to grow in numbers and increase the scope of their activities.

National Adoption Conferences are now held regularly in Ontario thanks to the enthusiasm and organizational ability of one such organization. An Ontario Association on Adoptable Children has been formed by the network of parent groups throughout the province, and membership is welcomed from agencies, social workers, child care workers and concerned citizens. Information may be obtained from any of the parent organizations listed on page 24.

Subsidy

In some exceptional adoption placements, children's aid societies may approve a subsidy to assist parents who wish to adopt a child or children with special needs. The amount may vary depending on the circumstances of the child. It can be an initial payment of money, an ongoing monthly amount until the child reaches maturity, or a provision for some specific one-time need such as orthodontic work or a ramp in the case of a child confined to a wheelchair.

In certain cases, where a child and foster family have developed a close relationship and a child has put down roots, a subsidy can be paid. A number of these have been approved since 1978 when adoption subsidies were introduced in Ontario.

Adoption Disclosure

Parents should be aware that the child they adopt may wish to have contact with his/her birth parents when he/she grows up. The Adoption Disclosure Register is operated by the Adoption Unit of the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services. The present Register came into being in July 1987 when Bill 165, the Adoption Disclosure Statute Law Amendment Act, 1987, was proclaimed.

The new legislation established greater openness in disclosing adoption information. Non-identifying information is available upon request to adoptees over the age of 18 years, their birth parents and adoptive parents and also adult birth siblings and birth grandparents. The consent of the adoptive parents is not required, except in the case of an adoptee under the age of 18.

The Adoption Disclosure Register is a record of adopted persons, 18 years or over, who want to obtain identifying information about their birth parents or birth relatives and birth relatives who want to obtain identifying information about children from whom they were parted by adoption. Counselling is mandatory for both parties when matched by the Register before any identifying information is released. The counselling is arranged by the Ministry and is offered by a Children's Aid Society or other recognised agency, or by a member of the Ministry Adoption Unit staff.

The Registrar of Adoption Information will undertake an active search on behalf of an adult adoptee if the birth parent or relative sought is not named in the Register. No search is undertaken on behalf of a birth relative except at the discretion of the Registrar in special circumstances. The person being sought must themselves apply to enter the Register before any identifying information is released.

Further information and application forms for the Register may be obtained from the Adoption Disclosure Register or from Children's Aid Societies.

**Adoption Unit
Adoption Disclosure
Ministry of Community & Social Services
2nd Floor, 700 Bay Street,
Toronto, Ontario M5G 1Z6
Telephone (416) 963-0709**

Children's Aid Societies

Algoma

65 Willow Avenue
Sault Ste. Marie
Ontario, P6B 5B1
(705) 949-0162

Brant

Box 774
70 Chatham Street
Brantford
Ontario, N3T 5R7
(519) 753-8681

Bruce

Box 279
30 Park Street
Walkerton
Ontario, N0G 2V0
(519) 881-1822

Dufferin

Court House
299 Broadway
Orangeville
Ontario, L9W 1L4
(519) 941-1530

Durham

Box 321
(Midtown Mall)
200 John Street West
Oshawa
Ontario, L1H 7L3
(416) 433-1551

St. Thomas and Elgin

27 Southwick Street
St. Thomas
Ontario, N5R 3R7
(519) 631-1492

Essex

690 Cataraqui Street
Windsor
Ontario, N9A 3P1
(519) 252-1171

Essex R.C.

Box 2306
Walkerville Postal Sta-
tion
1700 Assumption Street
Windsor
Ontario, N8Y 4S2
(519) 256-4521

Frontenac

329 Johnson Street
Kingston
Ontario, K7L 1Y6
(613) 542-7351

Grey

Box 129
715 – 3rd Avenue E.
Owen Sound
Ontario, N4K 5P1
(519) 376-7893

***Haldimand**

Box 909
653 Broad Street West
Dunnville
Ontario, N1A 1T8
(416) 774-7471

Halton

467 Speers Road
Oakville
Ontario, L6K 3S4
(416) 844-8211

Hamilton-Wentworth

P.O. Box 1107, Stn. A
143 Wentworth Street South
Hamilton
Ontario, L8N 2Z1
(416) 522-1121

Hamilton-Wentworth R.C.

499 King Street East
2nd Floor
Hamilton
Ontario, L8N 1E1
(416) 525-2012

***Hastings**

P.O. Box 186
363 Dundas Street W.
Belleville
Ontario, K8P 1B3
(613) 962-9291

Huron

46 Gloucester Terrace
Goderich
Ontario, N7A 1W7
(519) 524-7356

***Kapuskasing**

P.O. Box 188
20 Stewart Street
Kapuskasing
Ontario, P5N 2Y3
(705) 335-2301

Kawartha-Haliburton

721 Vinette Street
Peterborough
Ontario, K9H 7E9
(705) 743-9751

***Kenora**

R.R. 1, Ocean Avenue
Kenora
Ontario, P9N 3W7
(807) 468-5508

Kent

Box 157
435 Grand Avenue West
Chatham
Ontario, N7L 3Z4
(519) 352-0440

Sarnia-Lambton

171 Kendall Street
Point Edward
Ontario, N7V 4G6
(519) 336-0623

Lanark

Box 37
Perth
Ontario, K7H 3E2
(613) 264-1500

***Leeds and Grenville**

Box 549, R.R. 1
Prescott Road
Brockville
Ontario, K6V 5V7
(613) 342-0310

Lennox and Addington

41 Dundas West
Napanee
Ontario, K7R 1Z5
(613) 354-9744

***London and Middlesex**

Box 848, Station 'B'
164 Albert Street
London
Ontario, N6A 4Z5
(519) 434-8461

***Muskoka**

Box 1200
Bracebridge
Ontario, P0B 1C0
(705) 645-4426

***Niagara Region**

Box 516
311 Geneva Street
St. Catharines
Ontario, L2R 6W5
(416) 937-7731

Nipissing

Box 1035
433 McIntyre Street N.
Ste. 300
North Bay
Ontario, P1B 2Z3
(705) 472-0910

***Norfolk**

Box 601
23 Argyle Street
Simcoe
Ontario, N3Y 4L8
(519) 426-4290

***Northumberland**

P.O. Box 2015
1005 Burnham Street
Cobourg
Ontario, K9A 5E9
(416) 372-1821

Ottawa-Carleton

1370 Bank Street
Ottawa
Ontario, K1H 7Y3
(613) 733-0670

***Oxford**

Box 312
92 Light Street
Woodstock
Ontario, N4S 7X6
(516) 539-6176

Parry Sound

76 Church Street
Parry Sound
Ontario, P2A 1Z1
(705) 746-9354

Peel

10 Peel Centre Drive
Brampton
Ontario, L6T 4B9
(416) 791-5151

Perth

Box 278
380 Hibernia Street
Stratford
Ontario, N5A 6T1
(519) 271-5290

Porcupine and District

12 Elm Street North
Timmins
Ontario, P4N 6A1
(705) 264-4257

Prescott and Russell

Box 248
173 Main Street
Plantagenet
Ontario, K0B 1L0
(613) 673-5148

Prince Edward

Box 1510
6 Ross Street
Picton
Ontario, K0K 2T0
(613) 476-2765

Rainy River

P.O. Box 751
450 Scott Street
Fort Frances
Ontario, P9A 3N1
(807) 274-7787

***Renfrew**

77 Mary Street
Ste. 100
Pembroke
Ontario, K8A 5V4
(613) 735-6866

Simcoe
County Administration
Centre
Midhurst
Ontario, L0L 1X0
(705) 726-6587

**Stormont, Dundas
and Glengarry**
Box 983
27 York Street
Cornwall
Ontario, K6H 5V1
(613) 933-2292

Sudbury-Manitoulin
1492 Paris Street
Sudbury
Ontario, P3E 3B8
(705) 522-8600

***Temiskaming**
Box 1150
64 Government Road West
Kirkland Lake
Ontario, P2N 3M7
(705) 567-9201

Thunder Bay
Box 2027, Station 'P'
309 South Court
Thunder Bay
Ontario, P7B 5E7
(807) 343-6100

Toronto
33 Charles Street East
Toronto
Ontario, M4Y 1R9
(416) 924-4646

Toronto R.C.
26 Maitland Street
Toronto
Ontario, M4Y 1C6
(416) 925-6641

Waterloo
355 Charles Street East
Kitchener
Ontario, N2G 2P8
(519) 576-0540

****Wellington**
Box 1088
55 Delhi Street
Guelph
Ontario, N1H 6N3
(519) 824-2410

York
P.O. Box 358
85 Eagle Street West
Newmarket
Ontario, L3Y 4X7
(416) 895-2318

Jewish Family and
Child Service
of Metropolitan Toronto
4600 Bathurst St.
6th Floor
Toronto
Ontario, M2R 3V3
(416) 638-7800

Ontario Association of
Children's Aid Societies
2323 Yonge Street
Suite 505
Toronto
Ontario, M4P 2C9
(416) 481-5223

The National Adoption Desk
Social Service Programs
Health and Welfare Canada
904 Brooke Claxton Building
Tunney's Pasture
Ottawa
Ontario, K1A 1B5
(613) 957-0598

*Name is Family and Children's Service

**Name is Children's Aid Society and Family
Counselling Service

Ministry Area Offices

Northern Region

Dryden

479 Government Road
P.O. Box 1020
Dryden
Ontario, P8N 3E3
(807) 223-3323

Kenora

20 Main Street
Kenora
Ontario, P9N 1S7
(807) 468-3056

North Bay

222 McIntyre Street West
Suite 310
North Bay
Ontario, P1B 2Y8
(705) 474-1519

Sudbury

199 Larch Street
5th Floor
Sudbury
Ontario, P3E 5P9
(705) 675-4515

Thunder Bay

710 Victoria Avenue
Suite 301
Thunder Bay
Ontario, P7C 5P7
(807) 475-1345

Timmins

11 Elm Street North
Timmins
Ontario, P4N 6A3
(705) 267-7901

Southeastern Region

Kingston

1055 Princess Street
Suite 103
Kingston
Ontario, K7L 4X8
(613) 545-0539

Peterborough

60 Hunter Street East
Peterborough
Ontario, K9H 1G5
(705) 743-1624

Ottawa

10 Rideau Street
7th Floor
Ottawa
Ontario, K1N 9J1
(613) 234-1188

Central Region

Barrie

34 Simcoe Street
4th Floor
Barrie
Ontario, L4N 6T4
(705) 737-1311

Toronto

2195 Yonge Street
9th Floor
Toronto
Ontario, M7A 1G1
(416) 965-7863

Mississauga

1140 Burnamthorpe Road, W.
Suite 212
Mississauga
Ontario, L5C 4E9
(416) 897-3100

Southwestern Region

Hamilton

119 King Street West
P.O. Box 2112
7th Floor
Hamilton
Ontario, L8N 3Z9
(416) 521-7280

Windsor

250 Windsor Avenue
1st Floor
Windsor
Ontario, N9A 6V9
(519) 254-1651

London

5th Floor
195 Dufferin Avenue
London
Ontario, N6A 1K7
(519) 438-8344

Waterloo

75 King Street South
Waterloo Town Square
Suite 501
5th Floor
Waterloo
Ontario, N2J 1P2
(519) 886-4700

Private Licensed Adoption Agencies

Children's Resources & Consultation Centre of
Ontario
112 St. Clair Avenue West, Suite 300
Toronto, Ontario M4V 2Y3
Telephone: (416) 961-3428
Attention: Michael Blugerman

Adoption Agency & Counselling Service (Ontario)
Box 1333, Postal Station B
Mississauga, Ontario L4Y 4B6
Telephone: (416) 624-0276
Attention: Margaret Sinclair

Jewels for Jesus
Adoption Agency
2110 Argentia Road, Suite 306
Mississauga, Ontario L5N 2K7
Telephone: (416) 821-7494
Attention: Marian Boyd, Program Director

Beginnings Counselling and Adoption Services
of Ontario Inc.
414 – 1 Young Street, Suite 308
Hamilton, Ontario L8N 1T8
Telephone: (416) 528-6665
Attention: Susan Chapman, Program Director

Chosen Ones Mission Inc.
RR #4
Stouffville, Ontario L0H 1L0
Telephone: (416) 640-4769
Attention: Christina McKenzie, Program Director

St. Clair Region Adoption Resource Centre
Box 2505, Walkerville Post Office
Windsor, Ontario N8Y 3K3
Telephone: (519) 252-7487
Attention: Lorraine Murphy

Families for Children
(For International Adoption Only)
45 Russell Hill Road
Toronto, Ontario M4V 2S9
Telephone: (416) 967-7148
Attention: Sandra Simpson

M. M. Kelly Counselling and Adoption Agency
96 Sunnidale Road
Barrie, Ontario L4N 1G9
Telephone: (705) 722-4163
Attention: Margaret Kelly

Adoptive Parent Groups in Ontario

District	Group
Bracebridge	Muskoka Adoptive Parent Association c/o Eric & Karen Kaye Box 2173 Bracebridge, Ontario P0B 1C0
Brantford	Adoptive Parents Together c/o Mrs. C. King 25 Kanata Crescent Brantford, Ontario N3R 7E8 Brant A.P.A., c/o Ms. Gail Redmond 15 Hawthorne Lane Brantford, Ontario N3R 6R1
Cambridge	Waterloo Adoptive Parent Association c/o Garry & Angela Shields 714 Sherring Street Cambridge, Ontario N3H 2X4
Chatham	Kent Adoptive Parent Association c/o Mr. & Mrs. K. Aphthorp 108 Semenyn Avenue Chatham, Ontario N7L 3R6

District	Group
Chatham	Kent A.P.A., c/o Mr. Bob Hillman 264 Baldoon Road Chatham, Ontario N7L 1E6
Guelph	FACS of Guelph & Wellington Post Adoption Group 55 Delhi Street Box 1088 Attn: R. Ceschan Guelph, Ontario N1H 6N3 Wellington Adoptive Parent Association c/o Mr. & Mrs. R. Bolten RR #5 Bedford Road Guelph, Ontario N1H 6J2
Kawartha-Haliburton	Children's Aid Society Adoption Support Group 721 Vinette Street Peterborough, Ontario K9H 7E9 Attn: Betty Young-Stirling (705) 743-9751
Kent	Kent Adoptive Parent's Association Bob & Nancy Hillman 264 Baldoon Road Chatham, Ontario N2L 1E6 (519) 354-0359
Kingston	Kingston APA c/o Carolyn Hollett 215 Days Road Kingston, Ontario K7M 3R3
Komoka	CANADOPT c/o Mrs. Donna Wolsey RR #3 Komoka, Ontario N0L 1R0
London	CANADOPT Monica Snow R.R. 1 Dutton, Ontario N0L 1J0

District	Group
Mississauga	Peel CAS Adoptive Parent Group c/o Ms. Maureen O'Dell CAS of Peel 3025 Hurontario Street 6th Floor Mississauga, Ontario L5A 2H1
Newmarket	Adoptive Parent Group of York Region c/o FACS of York Region Attn: Mrs. Joyce Taylor P.O. Box 358 Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 4X7
Niagara	Niagara Family & Children's Services Adoption Department Adoption Support Group P.O. Box 516 311 Geneva Street St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 6W5 (416) 937-7731 CANADOPT Sue Ireland 4 Kenholm Crescent Thorold, Ontario L2V 4C1 (416) 227-9952
Nippissing	C.A.S. Adoptive Parent-Group Ted Meyers Box 1035 North Bay, Ontario P1B 8K3 (705) 472-0910
Ottawa	Open Door Society c/o Mrs. Nancy Umbach P.O. Box 9141 Station T Ottawa, Ontario K1G 3T8 (613) 521-6587 <i>or</i> Rob Maynard (past president) (613) 737-0441

District	Group
Richmond Hill	Parents of Adopted Children c/o Ms. Shavie Fagan 69 Sanderson Crescent Richmond Hill, Ontario L4C 5L5
St. Catherines	Niagara Adoptive Parent Association c/o Mrs. Gail Richardson 8 Ridgewood Road St. Catherines, Ontario L2R 3S3
Stratford	Perth County Adoptive Parent Assoc. c/o Jean Anjema RR #5 Stratford, Ontario N5A 6S6
Thorold	CANADOPT Niagara c/o Ms. Sue Ireland 4 Keholme Crescent Thorold, Ontario L2V 4C1
Thunder Bay	Adoption Association of Thunder Bay c/o FACS of Thunder Bay 309 South Court Street Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 2Y1
Timmins	CAS Adoptive Parent Group c/o Ms. Anna Lisa Deluca CAS of Porcupine & District 12 Elm Street North Timmins, Ontario P4N 6A1
Toronto and surrounding area	Parents Concerned with Adoption Trish and Terry Caverly 925 Bayly Street Townhouse No. 93 Pickering, Ontario L1W 1L4 (416) 839-1961 or Bill and Judy Grove (as above) or Gina and Ray Osborne R.R. 2 Brampton, Ontario L6V 1A1

District	Group
Toronto and surrounding area	<p>Catholic Adoption Group Joe Fillipi 553 Coldstream Avenue Toronto, Ontario M6B 2K8</p> <p>Families in Adoption c/o Mrs. Pat Fenton 134 Clifton Road Toronto, Ontario M4T 2G6</p> <p>Toronto Adoption Group c/o Alice Clinton (416) 368-9791</p>
Willowdale	<p>Association of Parent Support Groups in Ontario 11 Nevada Avenue Willowdale, Ontario M2M 3N9</p>
Trenton	<p>Quinte Parents Association c/o Ms. Donna Warren 28 Gearin Street Trenton, Ontario K8V 3Y1</p>
Waterloo	<p>Adoptive Parent Association Gary & Angela Shields 714 Sherring Street Cambridge, Ontario N3H 2X4 (519) 653-8917</p> <p><i>or</i></p> <p>Fred & Marilyn Hovinga 529 Glenforest Boulevard Waterloo, Ontario N2L 4H9 (519) 885-1647</p>
Wellington	<p>Sharing Adoption Mr. and Mrs. R. Bolten R.R. 5 22 Bedford Road Guelph, Ontario N1H 6J2 (519) 824-8853</p>
Windsor	<p>CAS Post-Adoption Support Group Essex CAS Attn: Bev Thompson 690 Catarqui Street Windsor, Ontario N9A 3P1</p>

Adoptive Parent Groups in other Provinces

Alberta

Adoptive Parents Association of Edmonton and
Vicinity
Room 24, 10950 - 159 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
P5P 3C1

Contact Person: Mrs. Marilyn Shinyej

British Columbia

Adopting Parent Association of British Columbia
P.O. Box 393
Maple Ridge, British Columbia
V2X 8K9

Manitoba

The Children's Aid Society of Western Manitoba
340 - 9th Street
Brandon, Manitoba
R7A 6C2

Contact Person: Mrs. Margaret Rungay

The Children's Aid Society of Winnipeg
114 Garry Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 1G1

Contact Person: Diana Millward



Ontario

Ministry of
Community and
Social Services

Charles Beer
Minister

For more information contact the nearest
area office of the Ministry of Community and
Social Services, or your local Children's Aid
Society.

